

Supplemental Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Serial No. 10/050,972
Our Ref: Q68160

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicants have added new claims 22 and 23 to provide alternative claim coverage. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

New claim 22 is allowable over the cited references at least because none of the references individually or in combination teaches or suggest all of the recitations of claim 22. For example, Park et al. (U.S. 6,332,82), which is cited by the Examiner, does not teach or suggest the claimed method for manufacturing a plasma display panel which includes 1) heating the assembled front and rear substrates to a first temperature in a chamber and exhausting impurity gas from said inner space through said hole, and 2) further heating said assembled front and rear substrates to a second temperature higher than said first temperature to melt said sealing frit in said chamber.

In the method for fabricating a plasma display of Park, the heating chamber 31 and substrates 11, 12 are heated so that the temperature is raised to a temperature of above 400 degrees Celsius (second temperature). Park at 5:12-22. During this heating, the impurity gas is exhausted from the chamber 31, and the sealing frit is melted. However, it is impossible to reliably exhaust the impurity gas using this method.

In contrast, in new claim 22, first, the front and rear substrates are heated to a first temperature, and the impurity gas is exhausted. Next, the front and rear substrates are heated to a second temperature which is higher than the first temperature, wherein the sealing frit is melted.

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The claimed method, which includes heating to a first temperature and then to a second temperature allows the impurity gas to be exhausted reliably.

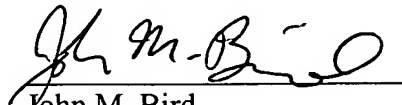
As such, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to allow independent claim 22, and also to allow claim 23 at least because of its dependency from claim 22.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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